From: Morning Consult
To: lmartin@bakersfieldpd.us
Subject: Morning Consult Tech, Presented by the Electronic Payments Coalition: Apple to Introduce New iPads, Mac Computers
Date: Tuesday, October 30, 2018 5:55:58 AM

By Edward Graham

Top Stories

- Apple Inc. is expected to unveil new devices today during an event in Brooklyn, New York, including updates to its Mac computers and iPads that reportedly include facial recognition features. Analysts expect the tech giant to release a new version of its iPad Pro with a face unlock system, similar to the one on the company's newer iPhones, as well as new Mac products, including a redesigned MacBook Air. (Reuters)

- More than 200 Google engineers are organizing a companywide walkout on Thursday to protest the tech giant's alleged protection of employees accused of sexual misconduct, according to people familiar with the matter. The walkout comes after a news report last week profiled alleged misbehavior of executives at the company, including Google's decision to give Android

creator Andy Rubin a reported $90 million exit package in 2014 following sexual misconduct allegations. (BuzzFeed News)

- A study by political analytics firm GovPredict found that Facebook Inc. employees have donated almost seven times as much to Democrats and progressive causes as they have to Republicans. The firm found that Facebook employees made 87 percent of their political contributions to Democrats and aligned groups since the social media company was founded in 2004, while staff at Alphabet, Google's parent company, have given more than 90 per cent of their donations to Democrats and Democratic causes since 2004. (Financial Times)

Chart Review

Is Facebook still growing?
Recode

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

TUESDAY

Incompas show	7:30 a.m.
Virginia Broadband Summit, hosted by NTIA's BroadbandUSA Program and the Center for Innovative Technology	8:30 a.m.
Idaho Regional Planning committees meeting	9 a.m.

New America discussion on the future of the FTC	12 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Incompas show	7:30 a.m.
APCO Emerging Technology Forum	8 a.m.
Internet Innovation Alliance program on telemedicine, including FCC Commissioner Carr	10 a.m.

THURSDAY

APCO Emerging Technology Forum	8 a.m.
FTC hearing on vertical mergers and antitrust	9 a.m.
Georgetown Center for Business and Public Policy event on 5G and healthcare	9:30 a.m.
BakerHostetler webinar on GDPR, the California Consumer Privacy Act and handling breaches	1 p.m.
FCC Office of Native Affairs and Policy and Wireline Bureau Telecommunications Access Policy Division teleconference for tribal governments on telehealth pilot	2 p.m.
FCBA 29th annual charity auction	6 p.m.

FRIDAY

Economic Club of Florida event with FCC General Council Thomas Johnson	11:15 a.m.
Colorado Regional Planning committees meeting	1 p.m.

General

Amazon says it has donated $100 million from sales since 2013

Jeffrey Dastin, Reuters

Amazon.com Inc said on Monday it has donated more than $100 million since

2013 to charities chosen by shoppers. The world's biggest online retailer gives 0.5 percent of almost any order's purchase price to a charity selected by customers who opt into its free "AmazonSmile" program, in the United States, United Kingdom and Germany.

Bradley Tusk, a political 'fixer' for tech companies, has a plan to make voting from your phone a reality
Eric Johnson, Recode

As an investor/political consultant for Uber, Bradley Tusk directed the company's aggressive efforts to mobilize consumers against New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio in 2015, and has since led similar campaigns for FanDuel and Bird. These experiences gave him a thought: What if voting were this easy?

Wisconsin's $4.1 Billion Foxconn Boondoggle
Bruce Murphy, The Verge

It was a veritable lovefest in Milwaukee in July 2017 when Republican Gov. Scott Walker and Foxconn chairman Terry Gou announced their plan to create a heavily subsidized manufacturing plant in southeastern Wisconsin. Walker gushed that Gou, who founded his Taiwan-based company in 1974, was "one of the most remarkable business leaders in the world."

A digital revolution is reshaping Democratic campaigns
Jordan Birnholtz, TechCrunch

Two weeks before the 2016 election, Bloomberg's Joshua Green and Sasha Issenberg published a story about Trump's brash, self-aggrandizing digital team. Democrats treated the story as evidence of the Trump campaign's utter cluelessness, until he won.

New York's Online Fantasy Sports Law Voided by State Judge
Erik Larson and Christopher Palmeri, Bloomberg

The New York law that legalized online fantasy sports games - allowing FanDuel Inc. and DraftKings Inc. to do business in the state - runs afoul of the state Constitution, a judge ruled. In an Oct. 26 ruling, state Supreme Court Justice Gerald Connolly in Albany struck down part of the 2016 law in a lawsuit brought by four New Yorkers.

U.S. Futures Hold Gains as Europe Stocks Struggle: Markets Wrap

Samuel Potter, Bloomberg

U.S. equity futures advanced, European stocks fluctuated and Asian shares rallied as investors turned their focus to a slew of company results and the next phase of a trade standoff between America and China. Treasuries fell and the dollar rose.

Intellectual Property and Antitrust

American Tech Firms Are Winning the R&D Spending Race With China
Timothy W. Martin, The Wall Street Journal

As the U.S. and China tussle over trade and technology, American companies maintain a major advantage over their Chinese rivals in a critical area: spending on research and development. U.S. firms, led by Amazon.com Inc. and Google parent Alphabet Inc., invested more than $5 in R&D for every $1 spent by Chinese companies, according to a new report from PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, which logged the top 1,000 spenders among publicly traded companies.

Tech Giants Are Bigger Antitrust Threats Than Standard Oil: Stiglitz
Victoria Graham, Bloomberg

Tech giants' market dominance could be more troublesome than any antitrust threats seen in U.S. history, and federal regulators have been slow to react to it, Nobel prize winning economist Joseph Stiglitz said. "Google and Facebook represent a more serious threat than Standard Oil did," the former World Bank chief economist said, referring to the oil giant that gave birth to the antitrust law in the U.S. in the early 1900s.

Telecom, Wireless and TV

Cable Needs to Dial Up Flexibility, Dial Down Cost to Bring Back Cord-Cutters
Edward Graham, Morning Consult

As U.S. telecommunications companies continue to lose large numbers of

traditional television subscribers, a Morning Consult/Hollywood Reporter survey may offer a path forward for retaining viewers: offering cheaper packages with more flexible options. The poll, conducted from Oct. 18-19 among a national sample of 2,201 adults, found 65 percent of respondents said that TV bundles force consumers to pay for channels they don't want, with 73 percent of Americans saying they would prefer to choose the exact channels included in their cable or satellite TV packages.

Intel Hits an Internal Goal for Workforce Diversity

Yoree Koh, The Wall Street Journal

Intel Corp. on Monday announced an internal milestone in its push for a more diverse workforce: It has achieved "full representation." But that doesn't mean it has reached gender or racial equality.

Pai Plans to Remain FCC Chair For 'Foreseeable Future'

John Eggerton, Multichannel News

A spokesman for Federal Communications Commission chairman Ajit Pai has told Multichannel News that the chairman, who took over the post in January 2017, "plans to lead the FCC for the foreseeable future." Pai - a Republican appointed to the commission by President Barack Obama in 2012, then named chair by President Donald Trump - was asked after the FCC's Oct. 23 public meeting whether he planned to remain in that post if the Democrats took over the House in the midterm elections, as many are predicting.

FCC Falsely Claims Community Broadband an 'Ominous Threat to The First Amendment'

Karl Bode, Motherboard

The Trump FCC has declared towns and cities that vote to build their own broadband networks an "ominous threat to the First Amendment." The claims were made last week during a speech given at the telecom-funded Media Institute by FCC Commissioner Mike O'Rielly.

Sony Boosts Outlook as PlayStation Heads for Record Year

Pavel Alpeyev and Yuji Nakamura, Bloomberg

Sony Corp. upgraded its earnings outlook for a second straight quarter, thanks to a plethora of hit video-game titles that are boosting the PlayStation business. Operating profit for the current fiscal year through March will be 870 billion

yen ($7.72 billion), up from the prior forecast of 670 billion yen, the Tokyo-based company said in a statement Tuesday.

Mobile Technology and Social Media

On Social Media, No Answers for Hate
Sheera Frenkel et al., The New York Times

On Monday, a search on Instagram, the photo-sharing site owned by Facebook, produced a torrent of anti-Semitic images and videos uploaded in the wake of Saturday's shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue. A search for the word "Jews" displayed 11,696 posts with the hashtag "#jewsdid911," claiming that Jews had orchestrated the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

Lime hires its first chief business officer amid push into car-sharing
Kate Clark, TechCrunch

After four months "on the beach," per his LinkedIn profile, Uber's former global head of business and corporate development has a new gig. Lime has hired David Richter as its first-ever chief business officer and interim chief financial officer.

Manipulative And Distracting Ads Are Ruining Kids Apps, Researchers Say
Virginia Hughes, BuzzFeed News

Popular apps for young kids, especially those available in Google's app store, are teeming with advertisements that distract them from play, manipulate them to make purchases, and extract their personal data. That's the conclusion of a new study that's prompted a slew of child advocacy groups to ask the US federal government to investigate these products.

Uber goes to court to defend business model over UK worker rights
Costas Pitas, Reuters

Uber heads to a British court on Tuesday to defend its business model of treating drivers as self-employed, entitling them to few rights in law, in the latest stage of a long-running battle at the taxi app. The Silicon Valley-based company, which could be valued at $120 billion in a forthcoming flotation, has faced legal action, protests, regulator crackdowns and license losses around the

world as it challenges existing competitors and rapidly expands.

Google pledges $25 million in new artificial intelligence challenge
Richard Nieva, CNET

Google says it wants to help people do positive things with artificial intelligence. The search giant on Monday announced a new challenge for nonprofits, universities and other organizations working on AI projects that will benefit society.

Cybersecurity and Privacy

US election integrity depends on security-challenged firms
Frank Bajak, The Associated Press

It was the kind of security lapse that gives election officials nightmares. In 2017, a private contractor left data on Chicago's 1.8 million registered voters - including addresses, birth dates and partial Social Security numbers - publicly exposed for months on an Amazon cloud server.

Poll: Majority of Americans not confident in security of US elections
Jacqueline Thomsen, The Hill

A majority of Americans are not confident that the country's election systems are secure from cyber threats and think that it is likely that a foreign country will try to influence next week's midterm elections, according to a new poll. A Pew Research survey released Monday found that about 45 percent of respondents were at least somewhat confident that U.S. election systems are secure.

Facing Tomorrow's High-Tech School Surveillance
Rose Eveleth, Motherboard

This fall, as students file into Lockport City schools in upstate New York, they will be watched not just by teachers. Instead, for the first time in the district's history, students will be monitored by a sophisticated new surveillance system that scans their faces, looking for matches to the school's security database.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

Will tech fix election vulnerabilities before November?
Nadeam Elshami, The Hill

Imagine this headline on November 7, 2018, post Midterm Election Day: "Tech Companies Succeed where Election Meddlers Fail." Unlikely as this headline may seem, that is the measure by which tech companies will be judged after the election.

UK follows in the footsteps of Donald Trump on digital tax
Rana Foroohar, Financial Times

Britain appeared to lay down a line in the sand Monday, as its chancellor Philip Hammond announced that the UK would unilaterally implement a tax on digital services if there were no forthcoming international agreement about how to tax Big Tech giants such as Google, Facebook and Apple. But the credit may actually go to the Great Disruptor, President Donald Trump, whose own US tax reform plan, which included a minimum tax on intangible assets, has pushed other countries to grab their share of the pie.

Twitter Should Kill the Retweet
Taylor Lorenz, The Atlantic

On Monday, Twitter was briefly ablaze after CEO Jack Dorsey reportedly suggested to The Telegraph that the company might eliminate its heart-shaped like button. The company quickly clarified, tweeting that as part of a "commitment to healthy conversation," it was "rethinking everything about the service," including the like button.

Research Reports

Elections in America: Concerns Over Security, Divisions Over Expanding Access to Voting
Pew Research Center

With a week to go before Election Day, Americans are confident their local election authorities are up to the essential tasks of making sure that elections are run smoothly and that votes are counted accurately. Nearly nine-in-ten (89%) have confidence in poll workers in their community to do a good job, and majorities say the same about local and state election officials.

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